



Illinois Conservation Police Bi-Weekly Report



Vision Statement: As vigilant guardians we will protect the citizens and natural resources of Illinois.

DATE: December 1, 2016

(Weeks of November 14 to December 28, 2016)

*This report represents some events the OLE handled over the last couple of weeks;
however, it does not include all actions taken by the Office of Law Enforcement.*

REGION 1 – Captain Laura Petreikis

District 1 – Sgt. T. Petreikis

(Counties: Carroll, Henry, JoDaviess, Lee, Mercer, Ogle, Rock Island, Stephenson & Whiteside)

CARROLL COUNTY

CPO Jones cited a Sterling man during the firearm deer season for his firearms still being loaded after hours.

HENRY COUNTY

CPO Posateri cited an Andover man for failing to check his traps at least once per calendar day. He was trapping during the open groundhog season and caught a fox in a live trap.

JO DAVIESS

CPO Beltran observed two trucks driving through a field with the occupants wearing blaze orange and hunting attire. One of the trucks drove over to Officer Beltran and stated they were going hunting and wanted to show his license. During the license inspection it was discovered there were other hunters in the field. Second truck was in the field driving nearby, Officer Beltran asked the first hunter if he could call the second vehicle over so he can check him and not have to disturb their hunt off in the distance. The second vehicle came by and the person inside stepped out abruptly. Officer Beltran approached and observed a loaded uncased shotgun in the front seat of the vehicle. Upon further investigation it was discovered that this gentleman had shot two deer earlier which were back at the farm. The deer were placed in plain view right next to the silo. It was also discovered that the man's uncle had shot one too and was being stored in the same place. After several interviews Officer Beltran discovered several violations.

A 53 year old from Thomson was charged with illegally harvesting a white tail deer and blaze orange violations. He was warned with hunting without a valid deer permit. His nephew, a 28 year old man from Thomson was charged with illegally harvesting two white tail deer with properly tagging them, having a loaded uncased shotgun in the truck, warned for use and aid of a motor vehicle, no valid deer permits and blaze orange. Both men were charged at the scene and released. The Savanna food pantry and Thomson food bank will receive the meat from the seized deer to feed needy families this holiday season. New Era Processing stayed open late to accept the deer for processing.

CPO Jones arrested a Joliet man for possession of a long gun and ammunition while his Firearm Owner's Identification

Card was revoked during firearm deer season

LEE COUNTY

While checking waterfowl hunters on the Rock River in Lee County, CPO Teas cited a hunter for unlawfully transporting a loaded and uncased shotgun in his boat. The hunter also received a warning for no HIP certification.

MERCER COUNTY

CPO Francisko patrolled Mercer County during the first firearms deer season. Multiple citations and written warnings were issued for violations including having an uncased firearm in a vehicle, poaching an 8 point buck without an either-sex permit, illegally using another person's permit to tag a deer and call it in to get a confirmation number. The illegally harvested deer meat was donated to a charitable organization so the meat did not go to waste. Charges are pending in reference to an out of state hunter poaching a deer. That hunter did not possess a non-resident hunting license, habitat stamp or any permits required to legally harvest a deer in Illinois.

OGLE COUNTY

While on patrol in Ogle County, CPO Teas observed a truck driving slowly down a secluded gravel road. The truck then pulled into a field entrance and shined the field with the headlights. After a few moments the truck backed out and began driving back the way it came. The CPO followed the vehicle and observed the headlights turn on and off while driving down the road. A traffic stop was made on the truck and the very nervous driver informed the CPO he was out looking for deer. The CPO did not locate any guns or weapons in the vehicle but did discover a duffel bag full of numerous items of drug paraphernalia and cannabis "wax". The driver was cited for the civil cannabis violations and given a warning for shining wildlife.

While on patrol in Ogle County, CPO Teas observed a vehicle stopped in the roadway on a gravel road late at night. The CPO approached to ask if the occupants needed any assistance. It was quickly determined when the driver handed the CPO her bank card instead of her driver's license that she was intoxicated. The driver was given field sobriety tests and was arrested for DUI. A breath test at the jail showed the driver's BAC to be 0.134. The driver and passenger also received citations for illegal transportation of alcohol as well.

CPO Teas cited a subject for hunting deer over bait in Ogle County. The hunter was issued warnings for no blaze orange hat and not having his permits in his possession.

CPO Teas investigated an incident in Ogle County where a house was shot by a deer hunter during the firearm deer season. The hunter was identified and admitted to being the one who shot the house by accident. The hunters were in a field over 500 yards from the house and shot up hill at a buck in the field. The house was downhill from the hunter and was hit twice leaving holes in the wood siding. The homeowner was happy to give the apologetic hunter a piece of their mind rather than pursue any charges.

ROCK ISLAND COUNTY

CPO Francisko patrolled Rock Island County during the first firearms deer season. Multiple citations and written warnings were issued for violations including the placement of salt, food or bait in areas where deer are present, firearm deer hunting within 300 yards of an occupied dwelling, and failure to tag deer immediately upon kill.

STEPHENSON COUNTY

CPO Beltran investigated a TIPS complaint of a man who left his deer after he shot it and returned a short while later. The caller stated the man had abandoned the deer after shooting an 11 point buck. Upon further investigation it was discovered that the man did not have a string or zip tie to fasten his tag to the deer so he went back to the house to get one. He waited a short while to allow other hunters to get out of the field as to not disturb them. He returned and tagged the deer properly. A written warning was issued for failure to immediately tag. The hunter had several zip ties in his pack for the next deer.

WHITESIDE COUNTY

CPO Palumbo investigated a Lyndon man that made multiple trips archery deer hunting with no deer permits, no hunting license, and no habitat stamp. The Lyndon man unlawfully killed a doe lacking these required items and then he used a Prophetstown man's deer permit on it. The deer was also checked in under the Prophetstown man's information. Several citations and written warnings were issued to both and the deer was seized and donated to a local food pantry.

While sitting on top of one his favorite OP's in Whiteside County during the hours of darkness, CPO Palumbo observed a car driving slowly down a remote road surrounded by prime wildlife habitat. The occupants of the car then began shining lights out of both sides of the car, searching the trees and surrounding fields. CPO Palumbo conducted a traffic stop on the vehicle and ultimately discovered a loaded, uncased .22 rifle. Citations and written warnings were issued to both the Fenton passenger and the Erie driver for use and aid of vehicle to hunt, shining from a vehicle, hunting from a roadway, and NO FOID card. The rifle, ammunition, and light were seized.

CPO Palumbo discovered a deer camp in Whiteside County where hunters from Chicago were hunting over bait, failing to tag deer correctly, and not reporting the harvest. Citations and written warnings were issued to three of the four Chicago hunters.

District 6 – Sgt. Phil Wire

(Counties: Boone, Bureau, DeKalb, LaSalle, Putnam & Winnebago)

BOONE COUNTY

While checking deer hunters for compliance to the Wildlife Code during the first firearm deer season in Boone County, CPO Alt observed a hunter in blaze orange walking across a picked soybean field towards a timber and a second hunter in blaze orange seated in a parked and idling pickup truck at the outer edge of the same field. A hunting compliance inspection to the hunter in the pickup truck revealed he was in possession of a loaded, uncased and unplugged shotgun, was hunting without a hunting license or habitat stamp, was in possession of an unsigned deer permit and failed to wear a sufficient amount of blaze orange clothing while in the field. Although the hunter denied hunting from his parked and idling vehicle, the condition which he was observed also constituted violations for unlawful transportation of a loaded/uncased firearm in or on a vehicle or conveyance and hunting from a vehicle. An inspection of the second hunter walking the field revealed that he, too, was hunting without a habitat stamp and was in possession of an unsigned deer permit.

CPO Alt observed a hunter in blaze orange clothing seated in an idling pickup truck parked approximately 400 yards out in the middle of a chisel plowed field adjacent to a large timber. A hunting compliance inspection to this hunter revealed he was in possession of a loaded/uncased firearm which was inside the passenger compartment of the vehicle. The hunter was not wearing sufficient blaze orange clothing as required while in the field hunting and the condition the hunter was observed constituted unlawful hunting from a vehicle. Additional violations of no valid driver's license and expired registration were also discovered and addressed during this inspection.

BUREAU COUNTY

CPO Wagner and CPOT Stanbary while conducting department lands enforcement cited an individual for possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of cannabis <2.5g.

CPO Wagner while conducting wildlife enforcement cited 4 individuals for hunting by use or aid of bait, 3 individuals for unlawful take of whitetail deer, 1 individual for unlawful attempt to take whitetail deer, 3 individuals for hunting without hunting license, 1 individual for no habitat stamp and 1 individual for failure to tag deer immediately upon

kill.

DEKALB COUNTY

CPO Murry observed a deer hunter walking towards his truck and away from an area known to have been baited. During the investigation and interview the hunter admitted to putting the salt block out and hunting over it. It was also discovered the hunter was in possession of a firearm without a FOID card. He was issued citations for unlawful hunting whitetail deer over bait and possession of a firearm without a FOID card. Charges are pending for felon in possession of a FOID Card. He was issued a warning for unlawfully feeding whitetail deer.

CPO Murry was driving north on Schafer Road in DeKalb County when he observed an individual carrying a firearm over his shoulder, wearing camouflaged blaze orange. CPO Murry spoke to the deer hunter and during the course of the investigation, the hunter was given warnings for no habitat stamp and camouflaged blaze orange. He was issued citations for no hunting license, no deer tag, and possession of a firearm without a FOID card.

LASALLE COUNTY

On a beautiful, frosty, fall day CPO Kaufman and CPOT Stanbary responded to a call of a nude man swimming in a pond near the Illinois and Michigan Canal. When they arrived at a nearby parking lot, CPO Kaufman noticed a man cleaning his car in T-shirt and shorts. While CPO Stanbary was on the phone with the complainant, CPO Kaufman went over to talk to the man. After a brief conversation the man admitted to swimming naked in the pond and lying on the ground to dry himself off. He was issued a citation for nudity in a state park.

CPO Jansen completed a deer hunting investigation involving two brothers that began early this year. The investigation led to the seizure of an 11-point buck skull cap, antlers, and cape from a taxidermist. One brother was issued 2 citations for loan or transfer of a permit, the second brother was issued 10 total citations.

PUTNAM COUNTY

While on patrol in Putnam County CPO Finn observed a vehicle parked near the road. The vehicle appeared to belong to a deer hunter. CPO Finn walked into the woods to find three men working on a ladder deer stand. CPO Finn was able to determine the men had been hunting earlier that morning. One hunter had all required license and tags. The second hunter (first hunter's 20 year old son) did not have any license or tags. Third hunter (first hunter's 15 year old son) had no licenses or tags. CPO Finn observed the first hunter to also have a loaded sidearm with him. After an interview it was determined the father would receive a citation for possessing a firearm during bow season and warnings for allowing his sons to hunt without the proper licenses and tags.

WINNEBAGO COUNTY

CPO Fraser conducted multiple road hunting details in areas reported to have illegal hunters. No violations were observed during the details.

District 7, Sgt. Scott Avery

(Counties: Fulton, Henderson, Knox, Marshall, McDonough, Peoria, Stark, Tazewell, Warren & Woodford)

FULTON COUNTY

While working a detail in northern Fulton County, CPO Thompson located a group of hunters in the field. Three individuals were riding UTV's and it appeared they were looking for a downed deer. A short time later the UTV's emerged from the field and entered the roadway. CPO Thompson stopped one of the UTV's and noticed an untagged deer in the bed of the vehicle. The driver said he had shot the deer earlier in the afternoon and just forgot to tag it. A short time later another hunter from the group pulled up to the location of the stop. CPO Thompson located two deer in the bed of the man's pickup truck. The man said he shot one and the landowner shot the other. After a short

interview, the man admitted he had shot both deer in the bed of his truck and used the landowners permit. The two unlawfully taken deer were seized and donated to the Sportsman Against Hunger Program. Citations were issued.

While on patrol, CPO Thompson encountered a male subject on an ATV with a loaded firearm. CPO Thompson explained the necessity for the firearm to be unloaded and in a case. A citation was issued.

HENDERSON COUNTY

CPO Reid arrested two Iowa residents for unlawful entry into a closed wildlife refuge. Multiple citations were issued for waterfowl violations.

KNOX COUNTY

CPO Lazzell cited a Maquon man for unlawfully hunting deer with an unplugged shotgun during the firearm deer season.

CPO Lazzell is investigating a hunting without permission and unlawful take of deer complaint in Knox County.

MARSHALL COUNTY

CPO Gerard cited a subject for transporting a loaded/uncased firearm in a vehicle.

MCDONOUGH COUNTY

CPO Thompson and CPO Reid worked a baiting complaint in McDonough County. The CPOs located a hunter hunting over a pile of corn and without the proper blaze orange. The male subject was also found in possession of another's permit. Several citations were issued.

PEORIA COUNTY

CPO Lazzell cited a Peoria man for the unlawful feeding of deer during the firearm deer season.

CPO Lazzell is conducting an ongoing investigation in several central Illinois Counties involving multiple violations of the Illinois Timber Buyers Licensing Act.

STARK COUNTY

Nothing reported.

TAZEWELL COUNTY

CPO VanZant cited a subject for hunting over a baited area and not wearing the required blaze orange during shotgun deer season.

CPO VanZant cited a subject for illegally taking a deer with a .22 rifle at night from his vehicle. The subject was issued citations for unlawful hunting from a vehicle, unlawful hunting between sunrise and sunset, hunting without permission of landowner, hunting from the roadway, transport of uncased firearm in vehicle, and illegal take of deer.

WARREN COUNTY

Nothing reported.

WOODFORD COUNTY

CPO Gerard cited a subject for unlawfully hunting on property without permission.

CPO Gerard cited a subject for unlawfully hunting deer without a valid firearm deer permit, unlawfully hunting over bait

(cracked corn), failure to wear blaze orange, and hunting with 00 buck shells instead of slugs.

CPO Gerard cited two subjects for firearm deer hunting without the required blaze orange clothing.

REGION 2 – Captain Brett Scroggins

District 2 – Sgt. Rich Riedel **(Counties: Kane, Lake & McHenry)**

KANE

CPO Kelley, after receiving a baiting tip from a local businessman, located an area baited with pumpkins, corn and apples in Algonquin Shores. While watching a large buck and several does eat at the pumpkins, CPO Kelley saw the buck shot with an arrow. The buck went down, regained its footing, and ran away. CPO Kelley was able to contact the man who shot the deer. After looking for the deer, which could not be located, CPO Kelley issued the man a citation for hunting over bait and a written warning for hunting without permission.

LAKE COUNTY

CPO VanWiltburg wrote two different subjects in two different locations in Lake County for hunting deer with the aid of bait. Both areas were under surveillance for the past three seasons.

CPO VanWiltburg cited a Wisconsin resident for failure to record his deer harvest in the 2015 season. He also received warnings for failure to tag the deer before bringing it to the taxidermist and possession of road kill deer by a non-resident. The deer head was seized. It was a result of a joint investigation with the Wisconsin DNR when the subject admitted to killing a deer in Illinois during an interview with a warden up there. He was also issued citations from Wisconsin.

CPO Davis and CPO Kelley issued one citation for unplugged shotgun and four written warnings for hunting upon the highway at Chain O' Lakes State Park.

CPOs Kelley and Davis issued several written warnings and a citation to pheasant hunters at Chain O' Lakes State Park.

CPO Kelley issued written warnings to several individuals for fishing violations.

McHENRY COUNTY

CPO Davis and Sgt. Riedel arrested a subject for pheasant hunting with a revoked FOID. He was also cited for hunting upon the highway.

CPO Davis issued a citation for no Federal waterfowl stamp and warnings for no hunting license and no state waterfowl stamp while checking waterfowl hunters in McHenry County.

CPO Schreiber arrested a subject for unlawfully hunting deer without permission. The subject was hunting a piece of property that he did not have permission to hunt and shot a nice 170 class 15 point buck. The subject then tracked the wounded deer onto another property, which he did not have permission from, and was encountered by a legal hunter checking his trail cameras. The second landowner was notified and wished to pursue charges, however, the landowner whose property the deer was on was not happy but did not wish to file charges. The subject had removed the deer and taken the head to a local taxidermist to have mounted. Instead, the subject was charged for his offense and the deer rack filed for forfeiture.

CPO Schreiber cited a subject during the firearms deer season for hunting without a hunting license.

CPO Winters issued a subject a citation for unlawfully hunting after hours and written warnings for unsigned deer tags and unlawfully hunting without a habitat stamp.

CPO Semenik issued a citation to a firearm deer hunter in Harvard for unlawfully hunting without firearm deer permits.

CPO Semenik and District 6 CPO Murry conducted a late night road hunting investigation in rural McHenry County. The CPOs observed a vehicle slow as it passed their location. The vehicle then traveled down the road a short distance before turning around to stop and park on the roadway only 40 feet from the CPOs. The vehicle remained parked in the roadway for several minutes. The CPOs then approached the vehicle under the cover of darkness and initiated a traffic stop. While interviewing the driver a crack pipe was located on his person. Crack cocaine and a second crack pipe were located in the vehicle. The Marengo man was arrested and jailed at McHenry County Jail for felony possession of a controlled substance and possession of drug paraphernalia. Additional charges are pending Illinois State Police Crime Lab analysis of an additional substance located in the vehicle.

District 3 – Sgt. Mark Simon

(Counties: Grundy, Kankakee, Kendall & Will)

GRUNDY COUNTY

CPO Wollgast cited a landowner for hunting deer over bait (salt block).

KANKAKEE COUNTY

CPO Mieure conducted an airplane detail with several officers from Region 3 in Kankakee and Iroquois counties. A subject was found to have been in possession of a firearm with altered serial number.

CPOs Mieure and Vadbunker cited a hunter for hunting over bait.

CPOs Mieure and Vadbunker cited hunters for hunting without permission and for failure to have licenses and required stamps in possession.

CPO Vadbunker conducted an IDNR presentation and K-9 demo for a group of 4H students at Chebanse Community Center and for a criminal justice class at Olivet Nazarene University.

KENDALL COUNTY

Nothing to report.

WILL COUNTY

CPO Honiotes received a TIP about a subject archery hunting during firearm season without permission and without required orange clothing. Upon arrival CPO Honiotes observed two juveniles carrying compound bows and not wearing orange clothing. The father was located on the other side of the property in a tree stand also archery hunting. None of the hunters had a valid firearm permit. The youth hunters had not completed safety education and had been permitted to hunt on their own without required supervision. The father was explained what all the violations were and cited him for hunting during firearm season without required orange and provided a warning for not being in immediate control of the youth hunters.

CPO Honiotes responded to a complaint of hunting in a Nature Preserve. Investigation revealed the men were hunting legally.

CPO Honiotes continues to work on several properties where hunting is prohibited and where baited tree stands are present.

CPO Honiotes performed compliance checks on Braidwood Lake. No violations were found.

CPO Honiotes responded to a complaint at Braidwood Lake of one group of hunters shooting in the direction of another group of hunters. Investigation revealed no violations or safety issues.

CPO Reid assisted the Wilmington Fire Department with a boater in distress that was floating toward the Wilmington Dam without any paddles. The individual was returned safely to the shore before reaching the Dam.

CPO Reid stopped three individuals at the DPCA who were hunting without the required orange clothing. Two of the hunters had neither hunting licenses nor habitat stamps and were carrying 22 rifles which are not permitted on site. The other hunter carried an unplugged 12 gauge shotgun and was also in possession of rifled slugs "in case he saw any deer or anything". Eight citations were issued to the group including hunting without permission, no orange, unplugged shotgun, and unlawful possession of rifled slugs. Eight warnings were also issued for permit and weapons violations.

District 4 – Sgt. Bill Shannon **(Counties: Cook & DuPage)**

COOK COUNTY

CPO Macias was at Sedgwick Lake in Orland Park when he came across a young fisherman. Having just turned 16 five days prior, the young man did not have a fishing license and lied to CPO Macias about his year of birth. CPO Macias quickly knew it was a lie and told the new sportsman not to lie to police. A written warning was issued.

CPO Macias was in Marion and Wayne Counties during the first firearm season and checked several hunters in various private land hunts during the three days. A total of 3 citations and 1 written warning were issued.

CPO Mooi conducted a follow up on a TIPS complaint in Chicago. A man was issued a citation for illegal snagging in Belmont Harbor.

CPO Mooi stopped a vehicle for traveling on the shoulder at a high rate of speed on I290 WB at Biesterfield road. The driver was cited for driving on a suspended license and issued a written warning for speed and a written warning for driving on the shoulder.

CPO Whitchurch was on patrol at approximately 10:30 p.m. when he observed four subjects fishing on a river bank in the south side of Chicago. CPO Whitchurch observed all four subjects catch at least one fish each. When CPO Whitchurch approached the four subjects, one of the subjects stepped off the rock ledge, placed his fishing pole on the ground and then attempted to walk back into a wooded area. CPO Whitchurch illuminated the subject with his flashlight and ordered him to return to the opening. CPO Whitchurch requested a fishing license from the subject which he did not have. A citation was issued.

CPO Whitchurch was on patrol at a Cook County Lake when he observed a subject fishing who was catching crappie at a quick pace. Every crappie the subject caught was placed in a bucket beside the subject. CPO Whitchurch contacted the subject and requested a fishing license which the subject produced. CPO Whitchurch counted the crappie in the subject's bucket. The subject possessed a total of eighteen crappie. The eighteen crappie put him three over the daily limit. The subject was informed about creel limits and was issued a citation for the too many crappies.

CPO Whitchurch was patrol walking a river bank when he observed two subjects fishing. One of the subjects saw CPO Whitchurch approach at which time he reeled in his line and walked back into the woods and out of sight. CPO Whitchurch caught up to the subject and requested a fishing license. The subject informed CPO Whitchurch he had a fishing license from many other states but not Illinois. The subject was cited for unlawfully fishing without a valid sport fishing license.

CPO Whitchurch was observing waterfowl hunters on a Cook County river when he noticed three small watercrafts underway moving upriver. CPO Whitchurch stepped out of the marsh and made contact with all three watercrafts. Two of the watercrafts were in compliance with all applicable State Laws, but one was not. The one watercraft was not properly registered and there were no wearable personal flotation devices onboard. CPO Whitchurch explained to the operator the importance of the personal flotation devices and watercraft registration. A citation and written warning were issued.

CPO Whitchurch and CPOT Poffenberger were conducting waterfowl enforcement at Lake Michigan when they observed waterfowl hunters underway in a boat. The Officers conducted watercraft safety inspections along with a hunting compliance check on the hunters. While checking the operator of the boat, a transportation of firearm violation was observed in the boat. CPO Whitchurch took control of the firearm and explained the importance of firearm transportation rules to the hunter. CPO Whitchurch then made sure the firearm was unloaded and cased before giving it back to the hunter. A citation was issued.

CPO Whitchurch and CPOT Poffenberger were on patrol checking anglers in the early morning hours on Lake Michigan. They observed three anglers actively fishing. When the Officers went to check the three anglers, one of them immediately walked over to CPO Whitchurch and informed him that he took a chance coming fishing today because he never purchased a fishing license. It was confirmed the subject did not have a valid sport fishing license and was cited.

CPO Whitchurch was on patrol along a Cook County river when he observed a subject sitting on bucket fishing. CPO Whitchurch approached the subject at which time he observed a glass smoking pipe at the feet the subject. CPO Whitchurch instructed the subject not to move at which time the subject stood up, stepped on the glass smoking pipe, and purposely kicked the glass smoking pipe into the water. The subject appeared to be agitated. CPO Whitchurch immediately subdued the subject and removed him from the immediate area.

CPO Whitchurch also observed numerous freshly dressed fish along the river bank and fish entrails in the water. The subject was checked for a valid sport fishing license which he possessed. Multiple citations and written warnings were issued to the subject for multiple violations.

CPO Vaughan and CPO Farber cited a subject for unlawful baiting of white tail deer. The subject had placed a large amount of corn next to several deer stands and trail cameras.

CPO Vaughan worked two days of the first firearm season in Livingston County. During that time he located a Chicago man archery hunting during firearm season without any blaze orange and without ANY of the permits and licenses necessary to hunt white-tail deer. The subject was issued citations for the blaze orange and no deer permits. Written warnings were issued for no hunting license and habitat stamp. A lengthy conversation also took place on how to properly read and interpret basic hunting laws.

DUPAGE COUNTY

CPO Mooi assisted the DuPage County Forest Preserve Police in identifying and arresting an archery deer hunter hunting on Forest Preserve property. The hunter was arrested by the DuPage Forest Preserve Police for hunting without permission, weapons possession on Forest Preserve property and destruction of property.

CPO Mooi conducted a boat safety inspection on the Des Plaines River near a popular duck hunting area in Burr Ridge. The boat was displaying a registration expiration decal indicating an expiration date of 2014. The operator was issued a citation for failure to display a valid expiration decal.

CPO Mooi responded to a call from the DuPage County Sheriff's Office about hunters shooting and possibly damaging property near a popular duck hunting spot in Burr Ridge. CPO Mooi met with the DuPage County Sheriff's Office Deputies, property owners, and the hunters. No violations were observed.

LAKE COUNTY

Nothing reported.

REGION 3 – Captain Jim Mayes

District 11 – Sgt. Brian McReynolds

(Counties: Clark, Coles, Cumberland, Douglas, Edgar, Moultrie & Shelby)

CLARK COUNTY

CPO Wellum investigated an incidental deer kill and issued a permit to a Clark County man for the deer.

COLES COUNTY

CPO Moody cited a Florida man during the firearms deer season for hunting with no valid deer permit in rural Coles County.

CPOs Moody and Barnes cited an Arcola man for possession of drug paraphernalia and possession of less than 2.5 grams of cannabis while checking deer hunters in rural Coles County.

CPO Moody cited a Michigan man in rural Coles County for multiple violations. While patrolling, CPO Moody observed an untagged buck hidden in a shed. The man returned from hunting 20 minutes after shooting hours on his ATV with an uncased and loaded firearm strapped to his back. When questioned, the man initially denied shooting any deer so far in the season. The man finally admitted to shooting the 8 point buck the previous night and not tagging it so he could shoot another one. The rack was seized and the meat was to be donated. The man received multiple citations and written warnings and has a court date in the future.

CUMBERLAND COUNTY

CPO Wellum investigated an incidental deer kill and issued a permit to a Cumberland County man.

DOUGLAS COUNTY

Nothing reported.

EDGAR COUNTY

CPO Wellum was patrolling the Eastern border of Edgar County. Officer Wellum received information about two subjects walking into the woods who were not wearing blaze orange. Officer Wellum located their vehicle and watched the vehicle and surrounding area for approximately 1.5 hours. Officer Wellum located one of the subjects with his binoculars, he was not wearing blaze orange and was holding what officer Wellum believed to be a rifle. The subject stood up and started walking towards his vehicle. Officer Wellum approached his location and activated the emergency lights on his vehicle a short distance from the hunter. The hunter threw his rifle into some tall grass and started walking away from the location. Officer Wellum exited his squad and confronted the hunter. Officer Wellum told the hunter to pick up his rifle. The hunter also had a 44 magnum revolver on his side. The hunter did not have a hunting license, habitat stamp or deer permit. The second hunter exited the woods a short time later. He also was carrying a rifle. The second hunter did not have a hunting license, habitat stamp or deer permit. The firearms were seized. Officer Wellum issued multiple citations to both subjects.

MOULTRIE COUNTY

CPO Moody cited a Champaign man for transporting a loaded/uncased firearm on an ATV in rural Moultrie County. The man received written warnings for no valid permit, no blaze orange, as well as other violations.

CPO Greuel cited a Wisconsin man in Moultrie County for deer hunting with an unplugged shotgun. Subject was also issued several written warnings.

SHELBY COUNTY

CPO Barnes located two baited deer stands in Shelby County and issued citations to two Moweaqua men for hunting over bait.

Sgt. McReynolds stopped a car for improper lane in Shelby County and found the passenger, a Herrick man, to be wanted on a Shelby County arrest warrant. The man was arrested and transported to the Shelby County Jail.

CPO Greuel cited a Decatur man for hunting without landowner permission in Shelby County.

CPO Greuel cited a Shelby County man for unlawful transportation of a loaded uncased shotgun on an ATV in Shelby County.

CPO Moody cited a Stewardson man in rural Shelby County for hunting deer over bait.

District 19 – Sgt. John Williamson

(Counties: Champaign, DeWitt, Ford, Iroquois, Livingston, Macon, McLean, Piatt & Vermilion)

CHAMPAIGN COUNTY

CPO Reeves and CPOT Ausmus were working unlawful night hunters in northeastern Champaign County. At approximately 10:30 p.m. they observed a vehicle shine deer in a field and shoot at one with a .22 LR. Upon stopping the vehicle, the male driver panicked and tried to hand the rifle off to a female passenger when an accidental discharge occurred in the vehicle sending a round into the passenger door of the drivers work vehicle. The driver stopped and was arrested on multiple wildlife code violations as well as illegal transportation of alcohol.

On Sunday of the first firearm deer season, CPO Reeves made traffic stop of a vehicle in Northeastern Champaign County. Upon having contact with the male driver, CPO Reeves made an observation that led him to investigate the driver for driving under the influence of alcohol. The driver was subsequently arrested for DUI and transported and lodged at the Champaign County Jail.

CPO Reeves and CPOT Ausmus cited a Paxton man for harassment of wildlife. He was observed using a flashlight to shine whitetail deer from his vehicle.

DEWITT COUNTY

CPO Viverito and Sgt. Williamson received information of hunting without permission, trespassing, and damage to property which took place in DeWitt County. A suspect vehicle that CPO Viverito had previously checked hunting in the area was provided by the land owner. The vehicle was located and the suspect was interviewed. Sgt. Williamson and CPO Viverito uncovered numerous wildlife violations during the interview. The suspect was issued two citations and several writing warnings.

CPO Wright received a commercial fishing complaint on Clinton Lake. CPO Wright is working with several people on tips that will hopefully result in an arrest for commercialization of aquatic life.

Sgt. Williamson spotted a Clinton man hunting deer during the firearm season without wearing any blaze orange. During the stop and interview Sgt. Williamson learned of a Waynesville man that had hunted the same property the day before and shot a 13 point buck in DeWitt County and tagged the deer with McLean County tags. Both men were issued citations for their violations.

CPO Viverito and CPOT Ausmus were conducting wildlife enforcement and spotted a UTV operating on a rural road, in an area with a lot of private timber with ATV trails. The CPOs cited a Dewitt County man for unlawful operation of a UTV on a roadway and driving with a revoked driver's license.

FORD COUNTY

While on patrol with Sgt. Williamson during the 2016 1st Statewide Illinois Firearm Deer Season, CPO Graden arrested a Chatsworth man for unlawful transportation of an uncased firearm on an ATV and hunting whitetail deer without a valid permit [*Livingston County permits hunting in Ford County*]. The subject was also issued written warnings for: unlawful operation of an ATV on a public roadway, firearm hunting whitetail deer without a license, hunting without a habitat stamp, and failure to wear a blaze orange vest while firearm deer hunting.

IROQUOIS COUNTY

CPO Reeves, CPOT Ausmus, and CPO Viverito were working night hunters during shot gun deer season. The CPOs noticed a suspicious pickup truck driving slowly. The occupants of the vehicle were shining lights from the vehicle illuminating fields. The stop led to the arrest of two Kentucky men, yielding 13 wildlife citations and a DUI arrest. Two spotlights and a loaded 243 rifle were seized.

LIVINGSTON COUNTY

CPO Vaughn cited a Chicago man for hunting with no blaze orange, no hunting license, and no deer tags on a local hunt club. The man claimed that he didn't know that he needed those things if he was hunting on private property. Citations were issued.

Sgt. Williamson and CPO Viverito were working night hunters in rural Livingston County when they observed a car moving very slowly. The operator of the vehicle parked in the roadway, pulled into two field lanes and passed the officers three times. Upon the stop the operator attempted to hide the glass of vodka that he was drinking. As the man was interviewed it was found that he was less than a mile from his house and that he was having family issues at the house. A visit to the house verified the man's story and that everyone at the house was fine. His brother was called so that he had a place to stay for the evening. The man received two traffic citations.

MACON COUNTY

CPO Wright has been working on several waterfowl complaints in Macon County. One includes a Decatur man that has had his hunting privileges revoked? Only minor violations have been detected and several written warnings have been issued.

CPO Viverito and K-9 partner Hank were called to assist CPO Wright with fishing without permission case in Macon County. CPO Wright requested Hank scent the vehicle. Hank indicated on the driver and passenger side of the vehicle. A search revealed several small bags of cannabis.

MCLEAN COUNTY

While on patrol during the morning of Friday, November 18, opening day of the 2016 1st Statewide Illinois Firearm Deer Season, CPO Graden issued a citation to a Waynesville man for unlawfully firearm hunting whitetail deer by use/aid of bait.

PIATT COUNTY

Nothing reported.

VERMILION COUNTY

CPO Cottrell located a North Carolina resident trespassing and shot gun deer hunting on private property without permission in addition to being in possession of an unplugged shot gun. The man was cited for the violations.

REGION 4 – Captain Jamie Maul

District 9 – Sgt. Mark Wagner

(Counties: Adams, Brown, Calhoun, Greene, Hancock, Jersey, Macoupin, Pike & Schuyler)

ADAMS COUNTY

CPO Blazinic observed a black Ford pickup truck parked in a field approximately one hundred (100) feet south of the roadway. In the bed of the truck, he observed an empty bow case. During a subsequent investigation of the pickup truck, he thought that the subject from Pennsylvania was archery deer hunting in Illinois without a non-resident hunting license, habitat stamp or archery deer permit. The subject had purchased everything, but he voided the transaction. CPO Blazinic located the subject coming out of the woods. At first, the subject denied hunting. After a short interview, the subject admitted to hunting and retrieved the bow from the stand he was hunting.

BROWN COUNTY

CPO Blakeley located multiple mineral blocks, food blocks, along with empty jugs of liquid bait on private property in Brown County before the hunting season. CPO Blakeley located a non-resident hunting the property. Two subjects were issued multiple citations. One of the subjects advised an individual saw the various types of bait he had in his truck and was informed it was illegal, but he did not believe the individual.

CPO Blakeley located multiple mineral blocks on a property in Brown County during the hunting season. The mineral blocks had trail cameras over the blocks. CPO Blakeley located a subject hunting the property. The subject did not have his permits in his possession. The subject admitted to placing the cameras, but he did not see the mineral blocks in front of the cameras. The bait was located within 30 yards of three different deer stands.

CALHOUN COUNTY

Sgt. Wagner responded with a Calhoun Deputy to a disturbance in Kampsville. Two subjects were involved in a fight for some unknown reason and one subject was bleeding from the head. That subject did not want to file charges; however he did want the subject removed from his property.

GREENE COUNTY

Nothing reported.

HANCOCK COUNTY

CPO Wheatley was contacted by Minnesota DNR regarding a Minnesota resident whose hunting privileges are suspended. He was told he would be coming to Hancock County to deer hunt. During firearm deer season he found a truck with Minnesota plates. After checking the plates, the last name matched that of the suspect. CPO Wheatley ran surveillance all day. After sunset, he found two hunters coming back to the truck. One of the hunters was the suspect.

CPO Wheatley found a man hunting in a blind over bait. He was hunting over a trophy rock. After a short field interview, the man admitted to placing the bait out in the field.

JERSEY COUNTY

CPO Goetten investigated a hunting without permission complaint. The suspect was identified and interviewed. During the interview, it was determined the suspect also deer hunts in Missouri. A sales check with a Missouri conservation agent revealed the subject has claimed residency in both states for the purpose of purchasing cheaper deer and turkey permits.

CPO Goetten made contact with two Arkansas residents who have falsified records to obtain residence archery and firearm deer permits.

CPO Goetten observed a truck being driven by a male subject wearing camouflage clothing. After running the registration on the vehicle, CPO Goetten determined the registration was suspended for a mandatory insurance violation and the registered owner was suspended and wanted on an Alton Police Department arrest warrant. CPO Goetten stopped the vehicle and identified the driver as the registered owner. He was arrested and transported to the Alton Police Department. Bond on the warrant was \$5000 (10%). He was also charged with the traffic offenses.

Sgt. Wagner received a complaint of a subject shooting a firearm from an ATV. Sgt. Wagner was close to the location and was there within minutes. Sgt. Wagner observed a subject with an uncased gun riding a lawnmower along the edge of a cornfield. The subject was dragging an untagged deer.

Sgt. Wagner responded to Pere Marquette State Park Lodge in reference to a drunk and disorderly subject bothering the guests. The subject was camping in the tent campground. Upon arrival, the manager told Sgt. Wagner he did not want the subject arrested unless he came back. Sgt. Wagner located the subject and warned him not to go back to the lodge and bother the guests or he would be arrested. The subject remained at his camp site the rest of the day.

MACOUPIN COUNTY

Nothing reported.

PIKE COUNTY

CPO Blazinic checked a non- resident firearm deer hunter who was not wearing a blaze orange vest, did not possess a non- resident hunting license, habitat stamp, had an unsigned permit, and was hunting 52 minutes past legal shooting hours.

SCHUYLER COUNTY

CPO Blakeley located multiple mineral blocks on private property in Schuyler County before hunting season. CPO Blakeley located two subjects hunting the property. One individual admitted to placing the bait prior to season.

District 10 – Sgt. Chris Stone

(Counties: Cass, Christian, Logan, Mason, Menard, Morgan, Sangamon & Scott)

CASS COUNTY

CPOs Bettis and Thornley arrested a subject for theft of another person's deer head. The subject who stole the head then reported it as his legal harvest of his own.

CPO Bettis issued a subject citation for transportation of an uncased firearm on an ATV.

CPO Bettis issued a subject a citation for failure to tag deer before removal from the kill site.

CPO Swance patrolled the district and Jim Edgar Panther Creek FWA the day following Thanksgiving. During routine checks of hunters participating in the controlled pheasant hunt, several violations were noted to include: unplugged

shotgun, failure to keep bags separate, no hunting license or habitat stamp and no valid FOID card. Enforcement actions were taken.

CHRISTIAN COUNTY

CPO Cochran conducted an investigation regarding an unlawful hunting without permission/baiting complaint north of the Taylorville airport. The investigation revealed an overwhelming amount of scattered corn and what appeared to be dog food near a couple of tree stands on an adjacent property. The complainant's property had been cleared extensively and bait placed on his property as well. Ironically, the suspect in this case was already under investigation for purchasing resident hunting license, habitat stamp, and deer tags as a non-resident. The subject was located in a travel trailer on an adjacent property. The subject would not admit to scattering any bait for the deer but blamed it on "trespassers" who must have come on his brother's property in front of his stand, spreading the grain and dog food. The subject did admit to trespassing and clearing on his neighbor's property but also said he did not know where the property line was located. The complainant stated the property line was clearly marked with flags but they were removed by the suspect. The suspect was charged with falsification to obtain resident license or permits as a non-resident, criminal trespass to real property, and criminal damage to real property.

LOGAN COUNTY

Nothing reported.

MASON COUNTY

Nothing reported.

MENARD COUNTY

CPO Swance patrolled his district and discovered an area that appeared to be baited with turnips. Further investigation found several skinned furbearers and several fresh killed deer carcasses. Contact was made with the property owner who admitted putting out the turnips and placing the deer carcasses for coyote bait. However, he could not account for how all the deer died and did not possess any of the required documents required to hunt or trap. The investigation and citations are pending.

MORGAN COUNTY

CPO Swance was setting up for an airplane detail when he discovered a truck parked in a known hunting area. The truck remained in place several minutes after legal shooting hours. The Officer waited for the hunters to return. After some time, Officer Swance decided to walk the area fearing the hunters may have fallen or that they may be hurt. Shortly after the search began, lights could be seen in the distance. Officer Swance continued to walk and made contact with the hunters who still had loaded fire arms. The juvenile son did not have required blaze orange. The father was issued a citation and a copy of hunting regulations.

CPO Wichern issued two subjects citations in Morgan County for hunting on Cass County deer permits.

CPO Wichern issued two no hunting license citations.

CPO Wichern issued a citation to a subject for no deer permit.

CPO Wichern and CPOT Snodgrass obtained information that a Sangamon County bow hunter received medical attention for cutting his arm while field dressing a 10 pt deer harvested in northern Macoupin. After a short interview it was determined the hunter harvested the deer prior to purchasing an archery permit or a hunting license. Citations were issued for both violations and the 10 pt deer rack was seized as evidence. CPOT Snodgrass located a needy family in northern Macoupin County and donated the deer meat.

SANGAMON COUNTY

CPO Swance and CPOT Snodgrass responded to a hunting without permission complaint in Sangamon County. The landowner complained of shooting onto her property. The Officers found several tree stands that had been baited with liquid bait, corn, apples and grain blocks. While gathering photos and evidence, the Officers located the hunter. The hunter admitted to placing and hunting over the bait. He was also in possession of landowner permits he was not qualified for. He had not purchased a required hunting license or habitat stamp. Citations and written warnings were issued. The hunter, who was cited previously for the same issues, now has a court date.

CPOs Cochran and Snodgrass conducted firearm deer enforcement on opening weekend. The morning of opening day the CPOs were checking on several known baited stands on City of Springfield property. One hunter was located and out looking for a downed deer. The hunter was carrying a 12 gauge shotgun, wearing his blaze orange, but appeared very nervous when CPO Cochran made contact. The hunter stated he was out looking for an 8 point buck he had killed but was unable to locate it. The hunter stated his friend was also in the field assisting him in the search for the buck. CPO Cochran asked if he had killed anything else. The hunter stated he did not kill anything else. CPO Cochran already knew he had killed another deer because CPO Snodgrass had located an untagged doe on the back of a side by side and a pile of bait in front of the a stand. A brief interview with the subject revealed that the subject killed a doe and shot at an 8 point buck that morning, forgot to tag the doe before moving it, and admitted to killing a 10 point buck over a different baited stand 3 weeks earlier. The hunter was cited for 2 counts of unlawful take of whitetail deer, 2 counts of hunting over bait and unlawful placement of bait. He was given a written warning for failure to tag the whitetail doe immediately upon kill.

CPOs Bettis and Thornley issued a Springfield subject a citation for falsification of the deer harvest records.

CPO Swance returned to an area he had known was baited for deer. Two hunters were contacted. The father admitted to placing the bait. He was issued a citation.

SCOTT COUNTY

CPO Wichern issued a citation to a subject hunting Scott County with a Morgan County deer permit.

District 13 – Sgt. Eric Manker

(Counties: Bond, Clinton, Madison, Monroe, Montgomery, Randolph, St. Clair & Washington)

BOND COUNTY

Nothing reported

CLINTON COUNTY

Nothing reported.

MADISON COUNTY

CPO French completed a lengthy investigation into an Alton subject for unlawful take of a whitetail deer on property without permission. The investigation spanned nearly two years and involved several properties on which the subject hunted illegally. Several citations were issued and the case is pending in Madison County.

Sgt. Wagner, CPO French, CPO Lentz and CPOT Tripp completed an investigation from an anonymous tip received nearly a year ago. CPO French was provided information concerning the illegal harvest of a 9 point buck by individual from Mississippi. The investigation resulted in seizure of the deer and several citations issued to the Mississippi hunter and another subject from Granite City.

CPO French was the first on scene for a subject attempting suicide. CPO French and a Good Samaritan were able to talk a subject into seeking medical/mental help voluntarily. The subject was transported to the hospital.

CPO Liebl discussed conservation law and the responsibilities of a Conservation Police Officer at a Hunter Safety class to approximately 80 students in Highland.

MONROE COUNTY

CPO Schachner cited two coyote hunters during gun deer season for coyote hunting during gun deer season without a valid deer permit in possession. They also received warnings for no blaze orange, hunting license not in possession, unlawful firearm during deer season (.223 caliber AR-15 rifle) and illegal ammunition (buckshot).

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

CPO Schachner cited two coyote hunters during gun deer season for coyote hunting during gun deer season without a valid deer permit in possession. They also received warnings for no blaze orange, hunting license not in possession, unlawful firearm during deer season (.223 caliber AR-15 rifle) and illegal ammunition (buckshot).

RANDOLPH COUNTY

CPO Charles had an area that was known to be baited in Randolph County. CPO Charles checked the area on 11/20/16 at approx. 7:30 a.m. CPO Charles checked a hunter in the area but the hunter was not in possession of his permit or license. CPO Charles and the hunter returned to his residence and CPO Charles discovered two bucks hanging in a shed that had not been checked in from the day prior. Two separate hunters had harvested the two deer. The hunters were cited for not checking in the harvest and for the hunting over bait.

ST. CLAIR COUNTY

CPO Rolfingsmeier, while working firearm deer season, caught two hunters hunting on railroad property and both hunters were also not wearing the required blaze orange. Citations were issued for hunting without permission and written warnings were written for not wearing the required blaze orange.

CPO Rolfingsmeier, while working firearm deer season, was checking hunters in the Southern St. Clair County when he came across a deer hunter and CPO Rolfingsmeier conducted a compliance check on the hunter. When CPO Rolfingsmeier asked for the hunter's FOID card the hunter responded that he did not have one. CPO Rolfingsmeier asked why he didn't have one. The hunter informed CPO Rolfingsmeier that he could not get a FOID card since he was a convicted felon. The hunter was arrested for being a convicted felon in possession of a firearm and for hunting without valid deer permits. The shotgun the hunter was using was seized for evidence.

WASHINGTON COUNTY

CPO Charles was on patrol in Washington County and discovered two hunters were hunting over bait. One hunter had a container of deer cocaine still in the blind with him while hunting. The other hunter was in possession of an unplugged shotgun. Neither hunter had the required blaze orange clothing. The hunters were cited for their violations.

CPO Charles was on patrol in Washington County and found two hunters that were hunting over bait. The first hunter was not wearing blaze orange while in the deer stand. The second hunter had harvested a 9 point buck and only had one valid deer permit for Washington County. The hunter had not tagged the deer but had drug the deer from the edge of the wood line to the outer edge of the field. The hunter had a loaded shotgun still and was up in his deer stand when the Officer approached. The deer was seized as evidence and meat was donated to the Sportsmen against Hunger program.

REGION 5 – Captain Tim Daiber

District 14 – Sgt. Jeff Cariens

(Counties: Edwards, Franklin, Gallatin, Hamilton, Hardin, Jefferson, Perry, Pope, Saline, Wayne, White)

EDWARDS COUNTY

CPO Schoenhoff received a TIPs report complaint of an individual hunting without permission. After an interview of the individual he admitted to hunting in the area of the complainant and did not have permission to hunt. He was cited for unlawfully hunting without permission.

FRANKLIN COUNTY

CPO Lay currently has two investigations ongoing for unlawful take of deer.

CPO Lay issued a Rend Lake fisherman a citation for possession of a short bass.

GALLATIN COUNTY

CPO Schoenhoff scouted for deer bait prior to the hunting season and found a shooting house with piles of corn in the area. During the 1st firearm season a hunter was found hunting the shooting house with corn still located in front of it. After making contact with the hunter it was observed he was not wearing a blaze orange hat. Subject was cited for unlawfully hunting over bait and issued a warning for failure to wear blaze orange as required during firearm deer season.

CPO Schoenhoff cited an out-of-state hunter for hunting whitetail deer while revoked, unlawfully hunting without a valid hunting license, unlawfully hunting without a valid deer permit. A 14 point buck was seized.

HAMILTON COUNTY

CPO Folden received a call from a landowner in reference to a hunting without permission complaint. By the time CPO Folden arrived, the landowner resolved the situation and advised CPO Folden he did not want them arrested. CPO Folden had encountered violators in the area during previous years and decided to attempt to locate the hunters for a compliance check. CPO Folden located one hunter who was legal but had been cited by CPO Folden before. CPO Folden asked who was hunting with him and the man advised CPO Folden the other hunter was his son. CPO Folden conducted a brief interview and determined the son had been illegally hunting without a non-resident archery deer permit, non-resident hunting license, and without a habitat stamp. CPO Folden issued a citation for no deer permit, no hunting license, and a written warning for no habitat stamp.

CPO Folden was in his favorite shining lookout point for less than 10 minutes when he observed a vehicle spotlighting. CPO Folden carefully operated his squad to an area closer to the spotlighted. CPO Folden noticed the vehicle was in the field and he accidentally passed the violators location. CPO Folden quickly turned around and was able to stop the vehicle when they returned to the roadway. During the stop the occupants of the vehicle told CPO Folden "we were just looking". CPO Folden asked if any firearms were in the vehicle and the occupants said "yes". CPO Folden located a loaded .243 under the rear seat of the extended cab truck. CPO Folden arrested the driver who was using his handheld "coon light" from the truck. He also admitted the gun was his. The violator was issued citations for unlawfully spotlighting deer and unlawful transportation of a loaded rifle. CPO Folden seized the spotlight and rifle.

CPO Folden went to a location to investigate a TIPS complaint alleging hunters illegally hunting over bait. CPO Folden located three hunters in the woods tracking a deer. The hunters were within 50 yards of a tree stand from which one hunter claimed to have shot a deer. In the immediate area where the hunters were tracking the deer, CPO Folden located a deer feeder filled with corn. CPO Folden asked the other two hunters if they had killed any deer. One hunter told CPO Folden he had killed a buck immediately after shooting time. CPO Folden followed the hunter to the stand

where he shot the buck. The buck was lying dead approximately 30 yards from the stand. Between the buck and the hunter's stand was a second deer feeder filled with corn. This hunter did not have a hunting license or deer permit. All three hunters were related (two brothers and a son). The oldest brother admitted he was responsible for placing the bait. One hunter was cited for hunting over bait. One hunter was cited for unlawful take of deer over bait, hunting without a hunting license, and warned for failure to immediately tag and not having a habitat stamp. The man responsible for the bait was cited for illegal placement of bait. The deer was seized and taken to a processor for donation to a local hunger program.

HARDIN COUNTY

Nothing reported.

JEFFERSON COUNTY

Sgt. Cariens tracked down three persons riding ATVs on the road and off-road on Ten Mile Creek property. One of the persons was a missing person out of Colorado. The missing person contacted family to let them know all is well. All three were cited for operating ATVs off-road on Department property and issued warnings for driving on the road.

PERRY COUNTY

Nothing reported.

POPE COUNTY

CPO Johnson observed 2 deer hanging at a residence in Pope County. He observed 2 vehicles, with Georgia plates, parked at a residence. The CPO knocked on the door and a subject was hurriedly reporting deer harvest. CPO Johnson asked about the deer and the subject stated him and his wife killed them in Saline County. The subject was nervous and was asked how he got the deer back from the field. The subject paused and said in his truck. No blood was observed in the truck bed. CPO Johnson observed blood on an ATV. After a further investigation the subject admitted to killing the deer on his property in Pope County but using a Saline County permit to report the harvest. The 2 subjects were cited for unlawful possession (x2) and failure to tag both deer (x2). They were issued written warnings for falsifying a harvest report, unlawful take of deer, and using a Saline County permit to take deer in Pope County.

SALINE COUNTY

Nothing reported.

WAYNE COUNTY

CPO Schoenhoff received a report of hearing rifle shots in an area where Florida residents were seen hunting. After arriving at the location of the complaint, 2 processed deer were found. The hunters admitted to harvesting the deer and failing to report the deer before 10 p.m. the same day of harvest. Two citations and a written warning were issued for failure to report harvest of deer by 10 p.m. CPO Folden is investigating other violations associated with the contact.

WHITE COUNTY

CPO Schoenhoff investigated a Bald Eagle found deceased.

District 15 – Sgt. Dave Hyatt

(Counties: Clay, Crawford, Effingham, Fayette, Jasper, Lawrence, Marion, Richland, Wabash, Wayne)

CLAY COUNTY

CPO Smith was patrolling Clay County and encountered a hunter wearing blaze orange. CPO Smith was a considerable distance from the person when the person saw CPO Smith approaching. The person went back to the trailer where he

came out of. CPO Smith was almost positive the person had a firearm in hand. CPO Smith knocked on the trailer door and an older gentleman answered. CPO Smith inquired who was wearing the blaze orange. The person said he hadn't hunted for two years. The person acted as if he didn't know what CPO Smith was talking about. After a few minutes, CPO Smith told the gentleman to tell the hunter wearing orange to come to the front of the trailer. The person wearing orange came up and met with CPO Smith. CPO Smith found out that the person did not have a valid hunting license. CPO Smith interviewed the person in his squad. The person informed CPO Smith that his father who answered the door also hunted deer that morning. CPO Smith interviewed the older gentleman and got him to admit he was hunting deer without a hunting license, habitat stamp, and firearm deer permit. CPO Smith asked the two gentlemen who else were hunting the property. Three other persons arrived and CPO Smith found two of them to be hunting without a habitat stamp, unsigned deer permit, and one was hunting with an unplugged shotgun. CPO Smith issued 3 citations and 7 written warnings.

CRAWFORD COUNTY

CPO Taylor and Sgt. Hyatt caught a subject outfitting without an outfitting license. The subject was issued 2 citations and given a mandatory court date.

CPO Taylor checked a hunter from Ohio hunting during shotgun deer season. The hunter had killed a 9 pt buck and tagged the deer with a resident firearm tag with his name on it. After an interview the hunter admitted to living in Ohio and purchasing resident hunting licenses and either sex bow permits, either sex muzzleloader permits and either sex shotgun permits. The subject was issued 5 citations and given a mandatory court date.

EFFINGHAM COUNTY

CPO Smith drove into a residence and observed two bucks hanging. The bucks were killed the day before and did not have a Confirmation number on the tag or deer. CPO Smith spoke with the person who killed the deer and asked why he didn't call in the harvest. The person said he didn't get around to it. CPO Smith issued one citation for failing to report harvest and one written warning for failing to report harvest.

CPO Smith left that area and observed hunters riding ATVs. CPO Smith approached the hunters on the ATVs and observed one hunter trying to eject the shells from the loaded firearm. CPO Smith checked the other hunter's firearm and found it to be loaded as well. CPO Smith was issuing citations when another hunter approached on an ATV with a loaded firearm. CPO Smith issued 3 citations for the offense.

CPO Smith approached another residence and spoke with a person who stated to CPO Smith that he failed to report harvest of whitetail deer from two days prior. The deer were already processed and in the freezer. CPO Smith issued a written warning for the offense.

FAYETTE COUNTY

CPOs Compton and Roper wrote 2 citations to subjects for using unplugged shotguns, 3 citations for subjects hunting with invalid permits, 1 citation for unlawful take of whitetail deer, 1 citation for hunting deer by the aid of bait, 1 citation for transporting an uncased shotgun. Warnings were written for not wearing blaze orange, placement of bait for deer, no habitat stamp, and no hunting license.

During the first firearm deer season CPO Compton and Roper worked Fayette, Marion, Shelby and Effingham Counties. A total of 8 citations and 7 warnings were issued during the three days. A 10 point buck was seized that was taken unlawfully by a Florida hunter. We responded to multiple hunting without permission complaints that did not result in enforcement action.

JASPER COUNTY

Sgt. Hyatt cited father for allowing his son to use his deer permit to harvest a doe after the son had already harvested a doe using his own permit.

Sgt. Hyatt cited a subject for failure to immediately tag his deer. The deer was killed the previous day.

Sgt. Hyatt cited a subject for using a Clark County permit while hunting in Jasper County.

Sgt. Hyatt cited a subject for transporting an uncased shotgun in a motor vehicle.

CPO Smith responded to an area where a landowner was complaining of deer hunters on the adjacent property. CPO Smith arrived and found one hunter. CPO Smith checked the hunter's firearm for a plug and found it to be unplugged. The hunter was not wearing a blaze orange cap either. CPO Smith issued 1 citation and 1 written warning for the offenses.

CPO Smith went to another area and checked a hunter and found his deer permit unsigned. CPO Smith issued 1 written warning.

LAWRENCE COUNTY

CPO Taylor received a complaint of a hunter that killed a deer on state property not opened to hunting. CPO Taylor met with the suspect and he said he killed a 9 pt buck on the property and used his ATV to retrieve the deer. The subject was issued 2 citations and the deer was seized.

CPO Taylor received a phone call from a hunter stating he lost his head tag with the Confirmation number off of his 17 pt buck. While assisting the hunter in getting his confirmation number, CPO Taylor discovered the hunter had purchased the deer permit after legal shooting hours on the same day. The subject stated he killed the deer earlier and went and purchased a deer permit and tagged the buck. The subject was issued a citation with mandatory court date and the buck was seized.

CPO Taylor and Sgt. Hyatt observed a truck at the ERBSHA property parked on the levee. While approaching the truck a subject was seen running from the woods and got into the passenger side of the truck. As the vehicle approached our location, Sgt. Hyatt activated his emergency lights. The suspects failed to stop and sped off, and crashed into the ditch at the end of the levee and drove off at a high speed. The vehicle was later found abandoned with the driver side air bag deployed. When the officers returned to the initial scene they found a tank containing anhydrous and a white substance which later tested positive to be meth. One of the occupants has been identified and an arrest warrant has been issued.

MARION COUNTY

While on routine patrol in Marion County, Officer Compton and Officer Roper observed a harvested 10 point buck hanging at a residence. Upon inspection of the deer it had no valid whitetail deer permit affixed to it. It was discovered the deer was harvested by a non-resident from Florida who only possessed a non-resident, antlerless only deer permit for Fayette County. The deer was harvested in Marion County where the subject had no valid deer permit. The 10 Point Buck was seized by Officer Compton and Officer Roper. The meat from the deer was given to a local deer processor to donate the meat to a local food bank.

RICHLAND COUNTY

CPO Smith observed two hunters on ATVs driving through a pasture heading toward a farm. CPO Smith could see a deer being transported on one ATV. CPO Smith arrived at the farm and found the hunters. CPO Smith observed the deer to be untagged. CPO Smith checked both firearms and found them to be loaded while they were being transported on the ATVs. CPO Smith issued 1 citation/1 written warning for transport of loaded firearm and 1 citation for failing to tag deer.

WABASH COUNTY

Nothing reported.

WAYNE COUNTY

CPO Buhnerkempe was off duty when he received a call at home from the Wayne County Sheriff's Department about a complaint of shots fired from a vehicle at approximately 9:00 p.m. The caller followed the suspect vehicle until the driver drove down a dead end road and parked. CPO Buhnerkempe responded to the scene and found 4 teenage males in a pickup truck with a .22 magnum and .243 rifles. After interviewing everyone involved it was determined 2 passengers in the vehicle had been riding around with loaded and uncased rifles. The backseat passenger shot at a raccoon from the truck window. Two of the 4 suspects were cited for hunting by use or aid of a motor vehicle and unlawful transportation of uncased firearms. They received mandatory court appearances.

District 16 – Sgt. Kris Taylor

(Counties: Alexander, Jackson, Johnson, Massac, Perry, Pulaski, Union & Williamson)

ALEXANDER COUNTY

A Missouri subject arrested by CPO Vasicek during the 2015 firearm season for possessing multiple loaded high powered rifles on an ATV and unlawful hunting with center fire rifles paid \$500.00 and forfeited a 30-30 and a .270 caliber rifle as part of the agreement.

JACKSON COUNTY

CPO Mohrman assisted Region 4 with a search for a lost 83 year old hunter.

CPO Mohrman is investigating a damage to property/hunter harassment complaint in Jackson County. A property owner went out to hunt on the last day of the first firearm season and discovered his 14 foot tower stand was cut down and destroyed. Not only did this ruin the day's hunt, it also is a monetary loss of \$1900.00. Several suspects have been identified and the investigation will continue.

Returning south from a night hunting patrol in Perry County, CPO Vasicek was almost involved in a head on collision with a vehicle that entered his lane of travel on a state highway. This vehicle was traveling in excess of 90-100 mph. As Vasicek was attempting to catch up to the vehicle he saw it almost leave the roadway and was weaving lane to lane. As Vasicek caught up the driver almost rear ended a vehicle in front of it at a high rate of speed. The driver was arrested for DUI and was still nearly twice the legal limit and hour and a half after the initial incident.

CPO Vasicek charged a subject with unlawfully killing a large 8 point buck with a shotgun loaded with buckshot. The deer head, cape, and firearm were seized. The meat was donated to a local food pantry. The unlawful harvest occurred in the Shawnee National Forest

JOHNSON COUNTY

CPO Thompson charged two subjects with transporting uncased, operable bow and arrow devices.

CPO Thompson issued two subjects written warnings for hunting licensing violations.

CPO Thompson issued a written warning to a subject for ATV operation on the roadway.

MASSAC COUNTY

CPO Somers arrested a Kentucky man for falsification of residency, falsification of department records, unlawful take of a 9 point buck, unlawful attempt to take 10 point buck, possession of a shotgun capable of holding more than three shells, transport of an uncased firearm and uncased bow. The Diamond compound bow used was seized.

CPO Somers arrested a central Illinois man for hunting by the aid of a vehicle, unlawful use of lights to illuminate wildlife, hunting one half hour after sunset to one half hour before sunrise, hunting without a valid firearm deer permit. The Mossberg Model 500C shotgun used was seized.

PERRY COUNTY

An investigation by CPOs Mohrman and Lewis led to the arrest of three hunters in Perry County. The hunters were firearm deer hunting an 80 acre piece of land in the Northwest part of the county. Prior to the season, the CPOs scouted the area and discovered the area was heavily baited with multiple automatic feeders filled with corn and several salt blocks. On the second day of the first firearm season, the CPOs located the three hunters hunting the baited area. All three were charged with hunting deer by use or aid of bait. In addition to the baiting charges, multiple written warnings were issued for unlawful feeding of deer and various permit violations.

PULASKI COUNTY

CPO Lewis and Sgt. Taylor checked waterfowl hunters on opening day of the South zone in Pulaski and Johnson County. Multiple hunters were warned for license violations, separate bag limits and shot violations.

UNION COUNTY

CPO Vasicek and U.S. Forest Service Officer Anderson Harris jointly worked hunters on a large parcel of land that bordered Shawnee National Forest. Six separate baited areas were documented along with a Missouri subject who did not have a deer permit or license. Another subject was found to be hunting unlawfully on National Forest land with a landowners tag and with the aid of bait and no license.

WILLIAMSON COUNTY

Sgt. Taylor cited hunters for hunting without a valid hunting license, possession of an unplugged shotgun, unlawfully hunting with aid or use of bait, unlawfully hunting without a valid deer permit and unlawfully hunting too close to an inhabited dwelling (179 yds from house).